

SPECIAL MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
March 31, 2008

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

- Present: Clouette, Duffy, Haddad, Koehn, Nesbitt, Paterson, Paulhus, Schaefer

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

- Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, asked since programs are going to be important in this budget process that a clear definition of what constitutes a program be provided. The Town Manager, Matt Hart, stated that programs are defined starting on page 21 of the budget manual.
Wilfred Bigl, 17 Hill Pond Road, read a statement outlining the demographics and needs of the seniors in Mansfield, now and in the future. The statement also outlined possible solutions and suggestions.
(Statement attached)
The Mayor thanked Mr. Bigl for the information and will include the subject on an agenda of a future meeting.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- Mayor Paterson requested the presenters at the Town Meeting reiterate the important point that just because there is no increase in the budget of a program it does not mean that there is not a loss to that program.

- 1. Public Works

Flag as a reminder - Page 123, Equipment Maintenance
Council members asked that if there is an unexpected increase in the revenues this year they would like to reexamine the fourth mechanic position.

2. Solid Waste

3. Capital Project

Flag – Page 172, Capital Project Fund, Southeast Park Improvements
Council members wish to review options available regarding the storage/bathroom/concession building under construction at Southeast Park.

Flag – Page 173, Capital Improvement Program Narrative
Provide Council members with narrative outlining the Council Media Project.

Flag – Page 181, Proposed Capital Improvement Program
Correct the heading to read, Hunting Lodge Road Walkway/Other Priority Walkways

4. CNR

Flag – Page 183-184, Capital and Nonrecurring Fund
Council members wish to further discuss the \$50,000 for Park and Recreation (Teen Center & Bicentennial Pond) in the CNR Fund.

5. Town Aid

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, presented the Director of Finance with a list of questions regarding actual cost to the taxpayers of various Recreation Programs. Ms. Wassmundt spoke in support of the idea expressed earlier in the meeting regarding contracting out for the use of a chipper in a regional agreement. She also suggested the Council look at the Southeast building project as a learning experience.

Mike Sikoski, Wildwood Road, questioned the need for Professional and Technical Services for the Storrs Center Project. He asked what services could not be provided in house. The staff explained the purpose is to bring a real estate and development legal expert to the Town's side to review the agreements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The Town Manager announced the addition of two items to the April 2 agenda, a review of the League of Women Voters of Hospitality at Annual Town Meeting and an Executive Session.

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton. Town Clerk